

RECEIVED

JAN 31 2011

David Sipe
390 Baltimore Rd.
Auburn CA, 95603

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
CITY OF AUBURN

Dear Auburn Planning Commission,

As you know the Baltimore Ravine project is very controversial and will affect a large portion of Auburn residents. The outcome of your decision has the possibility to change century old ownership, traditions, and family ties. I have thought long and hard about how my letter should sound, whether it appeals to the emotion of those involved or concentrates on the hard facts, pros and cons. During my deliberation, it occurred to me that a letter about factual arguments would be overkill, for these are already well known. You know about eminent domain, forcibly taking land in the name of necessity. You know about the hazardous road path that would be built upon it. You know that there is already city owned property that was set aside in preparation for this project. I could go on but clearly an emotional appeal is the wiser choice.

This property is a part of who I am and a symbol of all that I stand for. I was raised taking care of this property by my father and his father, like generations before me. Responsibility, Leadership, Family, Stewardship, and Tradition. These are a few of the important aspects of life, impressed upon me by Richard A. Sipe, my grandfather before he passed. This property is his Legacy and thusly my care for it is a direct connection to him. This property not only serves to constantly remind us of him and his morals but serves to teach them to future generations. This property is host to many young scouts who experience

their first camping trips. They learn to cook, learn to clean, learn to lead, and they learn to follow. It is this continued, age old tradition that makes this land invaluable to not only our family and me personally, but this community as a whole.

I implore you to make the right choice, not just for me, but for you too.

Sincerely,

A Concerned and Loyal Citizen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Michael Sipe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being the most prominent.

David Michael Sipe

CC: Members of the Auburn City Council